(a) whether the Government have received applications from several States for conversion of the handloom industries into powerloom industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof Statewise;

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the handloom and powerloom industry of Rajasthan is on the verge of closure due to the continuous increase in the prices of raw material and non-availability of raw material from the central agencies; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Requests have been received from the States of Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra for providing subsidy and loan for such conversion.

(c) As a matter of policy, Government is committed to protection of handlooms and is, at the same time, agreeable to the growth of powerloom sector to the extent it does not impinge on the handlooms. Requests received from Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have not been supported for this reason.

(d) Increase in the prices of raw material has affected the handlooms and powerlooms all over the country, including Rajasthan, but there are not reports of scarcity of yarn, dyes and chemicals which are the necessary raw materials for both these sectors.

(e) The main reason for increase in yarn prices has been the abnormal increase in raw cotton prices. Government is constantly reviewing the price situation. The spinning mills, in the private sector have been pursuaded to supply yarn to handloom weavers at moderately reduced prices. Mills in the cooperative and State sectors have been asked to augment production of yarn counts more in demand in the handloom sector. State Governments have also been requested to open yarn depots in areas of yarn shortage. National Handloom Development Corporation has been directed to augment its yarn supply operations. Government is following a cautious policy in regard to yarn exports and also cotton exports keeping in mind the prevailing prices of yarn in the internal market. Silk yarn prices have also risen sharply in recent months and as a measure to help silk handloom weavers, Central Silk Board has been assigned the task of importing the silk yarn.

[*English*]

Nationalised Banks

750. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH:
SHRI SUKHDEO PASWAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of branches of the various nationalised banks functioning at present, State-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): There were 41776 branches of Public Sector Banks functioning in the country as on 19.2.92. The time and labour involved in listing out the district-wise number of branches of Public Sector Banks functioning in the country may not commensurate with the objectives to be achieved. However, the State-wise/Union Territory-wise break up of these branches is given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

S.No.	*State/Union Territory*	*Number of bank Branches*
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	23
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3251
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	49
4.	Assam	803
5.	Bihar	2958
6.	Chandigarh	106
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	7
8.	Daman & Diu	10
9.	Delhi	1039
10.	Goa	246
11.	Gujarat	2910
12.	Haryana	961
13.	Himachal Pradesh	602
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	253
15.	Karnataka	2756
16.	Kerala	1622
17.	Lakshdweep	8
18.	Madhya Pradesh	2709
19.	Maharashtra	4478
20.	Manipur	56
21.	Meghalaya	114
22.	Mizoram	24

S.No.	*State/Union Territory*	*Number of bank Branches*
23.	Nagaland	61
24.	Orissa	1261
25.	Pondicherry	58
26.	Punjab	1917
27.	Rajasthan	1755
28.	Sikkim	28
29.	Tamil Nadu	3188
30.	Tripura	86
31.	Uttar Pradesh	5186
32.	West Bengal	3251
	All India Total:	41776

[*Translation*]

Recommendations of Raja Chelliah Committee

751. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
ACHARYA VISHWANATH DAS SHASTRI:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRIMATI VASUNDRA RAJE:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Raja Chelliah Committee, constituted to suggest reforms in the tax structure has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in regard to each of the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The Committee has submitted its Interim Report. The recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

[*English*]

Setting up of Export Complex in Delhi

752. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an export complex in Delhi;